

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 096876 TOSEC 040054
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WCHARROP/HFO

APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE

IO - MR. HELMAN

P - G.MOOSE

S/S/-O RCASTRODALE

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O R 150106Z APR 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 096876 TOSEC 040054

EXDIS, FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO, OAU

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN OAU MEDIATION OF THE HORN CONFLICT

REF: (A) STATE O88087 (B) LAGOS 4736

1. WE ARE CONCERNED BY INDICATIONS (REFTEL A) THAT ETHIOPIA MAY BE PLANNING BORDER INCURSIONS INTO SOMALIA. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT CONTINUING WSLF INSURGENT ACTIVITY IN THE OGADEN, WHICH THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT IS PUBLICLY ENDORSING IF NOT ACTIVELY SUPPORTING, MAY LEAD TO A RENEWED HIGHER LEVEL OF HOSTILITIES. MEANWHILE, NIGERIA AND THE OAU GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE HAVE SIMPLY FAILED TO PRESS A VIGOROUS AND INSISTENT MEDIATION EFFORT.

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AS REPORTED REFTEL B, THE NIGERIANS CONTINUE TO ACCEDE MONTH AFTER MONTH TO POSTPONEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS WHILE OPPOSING ANY EFFORT TO MOVE THE ISSUE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. GARBA IS PORTRAYED IN REFTEL B AS ONLY GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS IN HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP BACK TO ADDIS AND MOGADISCIO.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU OR A SENIOR MEMBER OF YOUR DELEGATION DISCUSS WITH GARBA OUR CONCERN AT THE CONTINUING UNSETTLED AND VOLATILE SITUATION ON THE SOMALI-

ETHIOPIAN BORDER. WE SUGGEST YOU EMPHASIZE OUR VIEW THAT THE OAU HAS AN IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THIS SITUATION AND THAT YOU URGE GARBA TO MAKE FORCEFUL REPRESENTATIONS IN ADDIS AND MOGADISCIO TO LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS UNDER OAU AUSPICES. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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